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III IOR SEARCHES

Applications under review for Pelham's top posts

WAYNE CAMPBELL PelhamNEWS Staff

Town councillors are sifting through more than 100 resumes in a search to fill three key staff vacancies

Application deadlines for a chief administrative officer, a fire chief and a director of community and infrastructure elapsed last month. "We're still involved in the recruit-

ment process," said Mayor Dave Augustyn



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VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

Hope Larmour, left, Sejal Khandelwal and Holly Casey get ready to chew poverty up and spit it out on Friday during Glynn A. Green School's Kids Helping Kids Making Change for Children 2012 event. Students were able to chew gum in class for the fundraiser.

COMMUNITY COMPLEX

Recreational facilities report aims for late spring

WAYNE CAMPBELL PelhamNFWS Staff

PELHAM - Although a major issue in the past two municipal elections, a community complex remains months away from public discussion.

"We've hit nothing but speed bumps in this," Ward 3 Coun. John Durley, chair of the recreational facilities committee, said last week

The committee won't be able to meet until late March. The chair said he sent e-mails to com-

mittee members after last week's regular council meeting to arrange a time to meet. Town council asked the committee to speed up its reporting process. The latest speed bump involves

scheduling clashes with March break at local schools. Some members have booked holidays.

The committee will have to put together a strategy to draw up the final report. "We want to make it as solid as pos-

sible." Durley said about the desi

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upfront



COMMUNITY COMPLEX

Public will get chance to comment months from now

FROM PAGE 1

It will take it to late spring

or early summer before a report goes to council and on to the public through open houses, he said

The committee's final report has been delayed since

last summer In the fall, the facilities committee lost key town staff

members through a resignation and a retirement. With them went important figures and estimates about a potential twin-pad arena and community centre and other rec-

reational facilities, Durley said. Durley said he and the town's technical staff will try to find the computer files of spreadsheets and prepare

for the facilities committee's March meeting At the council meeting,

councillors asked the committee to meet and bring forward the report as quickly as 2010 municipal election "People have been asking

me and other members of council about it," said Mayor All they can say is "maybe, maybe, maybe" when asked

about the future of the existing arena, a possible twin-pad surface, theatre and community centre, he said. Council appointed the rec-

reational facilities committee in 2008 to review the town's recreational needs and suggest future projects. In 2009, it brought back an interim report to council. It led to a wider study that

would include cost estimates and long term plans. This final report would be reviewed by council and the public before decisions would be made. The process was delayed by the October

By June of 2011, the recreational facilities committee had reached the draft stage and the committee hoped to have the final report to council in August followed by public open houses in September 2011.

But then came the disruption of lost staff members. The report is expected to go beyond an arena and include comments on the Steve Bauer trails, soccer fields, ball fields, parks, Old Pelham Town Hall, the swimming pool and other

Among ideas referred to the committee over the past couple of years are a recreation centre, twin-pad arena, community and medical centre, and sharing recreational resources with neighbouring communities such as Welland and Thorold



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

Julia Lewis, a Grade 7 student, centre, was awarded first place at Glynn A. Green Public School's intermediate public speaking competition for her speech. My Love of Reading. Tiahna Ingraham, a Grade 8 student, tied for second place for her speech, All the Dogs in My Life. She tied with Lannie Seddon, a Grade 7 student for her speech, The Similarities Between Pets and Pajamas.

IOR SEARCHES

CAO, fire chief, community services director needed by town

The process involves assessing resumes, checking references and setting up first, second and third inter-

suited for the town, he said. Unlike the National Hockey League, there is no system like the final day trade dead-

"Although that may not be a bad idea to consider." Augustyn said with a chuckle. "It can take months," he

all possibilities." Town councillors have just finished working on the 2012 capital, operating and water

They will now have more time to turn to the hiring prolast summer. cess, said the mayor. The previous CAO retired.

A contract for the former fire chief was not renewed

The corporate services director resigned in the fall.

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■ INDUSTRY: Solar panel manufacturer celebrates first year in business

Bright future for OSM

ALLAN BENNER PelhamNEWS Staff

THOROLD - Things have been bright during the first year of operations for a local solar panel manufacturing "It's hard to believe that

only a year ago we started this process," said John Gamble, president of Ontario Solar Manufacturing Corp. (OSM Solar).

"What we've been able to achieve and accomplish is a testament to all of the workers here," he added.

Back in February 2011. Gamble teamed up with company vice-president and Welland resident Al Wiley to transform a vacant building on Hansler Rd. into a cutting-edge manufacturing facility.
Wiley said it took "a leap

of faith" to start a solar panel assembly plant at a building that was once home to a vacuum cleaner manufacturer. Fantom Technologies. He said they had a vision

and worked hard to make it a "John and I put in an amaz-

ing amount of hours," Wiley said. "But the time passes so quickly you don't even realize when you've gotten to that point of the business being where you envisioned it to be."

Now, OSM Solar employs 50 people and manufactures solar panels for several different companies while distributing other equipment such as solar power inverters for other

The company spent last week celebrating the achievements with special guests who included Ontario Energy Minister Chris Bentley and Environment Minister Iim Bradley.

Gamble listed the company's achievements for a gathering of invited guests at the celebration. It has expanded its manufacturing capacity from its initial 15 megawatts to 60 megawatts - enough electricity to power 7,000 homes a year.

In the weeks ahead, Gamble said the company will further expand its capacity allowing it to produce about 300,000 solar panels a year - enough to create 100 megawatts of power.

The company has also formed partnerships with industry leaders including LDK Solar, Juli New Energy and power inverter manufacturer Santorno Inc

Wiley called the anniversary celebration "a little bit humbling when you sit back and people talk abut you in a different light."

"To have the ministers here and actually have come candid conversations with them and express what our thoughts were and how we felt this would go

Bentley said green energy is nothing new to

"Niagara Falls has been producing green power for many, many years ... and it's fitting that the Niagara region is looking to be world leaders in green energy," he

Bentley, MPP for London West, said the province made a commitment to get out of coalpowered generators by 2014 "to make sure we wouldn't harm the health of Canadians" "We made a commitment

with the Green Energy Act to build a green energy source of power. We believe in clean, we believe in green and we believe in green energy jobs such as those right here at OSM Solar,"

LEFT: OSM Solar Corp. employee Julia Kim works on a solar panel. he said. "We made a specific decision when we launched the feed in tariff program not just to support green energy,

but to support a green energy economy While celebrating the first anniversary of OSM Solar. Bentley said people gathered were also celebrating that fact that the initiative is working.

He said the about 50 workers at OSM are among about 20,000 working in the green the road to 50,000 jobs by the end of 2012 tied to the Green Energy Act." Meanwhile, Bentley said, billions of dollars have been invested in the province as a result of the initiative.

energy industry, "and we're on

Bradley, MPP for St. Catharines, said communities throughout the region have all "gone through some very challenging times," but OSM Solar is an example of "a new endeayour and a new area to become

involved in and invest." "We in Niagara hope to be the Green Energy capital of the

world - at least of Canada," Bradley said. He said coal-powered gen-

eration plants "have a devastating effect on health." *Ask the Ontario Medical

Association who have estimated we have 1,900 premature deaths a year because of air pollution, largely air pollution that comes from coal-fired plants producing electricity." Solar power, he added, is going to be a "significant com-

popent" of efforts to replace the old coal-fired plants. He recalled his first meeting with Gamble, and thinking

he had a great idea, but wondered if it would "really come to fruition."

"Was it simply a good idea,

or will we see something concrete?" he asked, "Well folks, we see it."

Although many European countries have also embraced solar power, Gamble said Ontario now has something they lack - manufacturing facilities like OSM. "And that makes a big dif-

ference to the staying power. You just don't set up and build all the facilities and then move



from left, company vice-president Al Wiley leads Environment Minister Jim Bradley, Energy Minister Chris Bentley and Santerno Inc. vice-president Guido Tonin on a tour of the facility last Friday.

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Ken Koyama PUBLISHER, GENERAL HAWAGER Wayne Campbell, corros

SUN MEDIA



Just make the region work better

Niagara Regional council is kicking around "governance," It's an ugly word that only a bureaucrat could love. It's jargon for how we set up our political system. It seems with every term of regional council someone thinks now is the time to change our system of 12 lower tier municipalities connected through a regional council.

Sure the system is complicated, We have 31 regional councillors. We have local councils of varying sizes. We have mayors sitting on both. We have slit responsibilities.

In general, the region takes care of the connecting services of mads, water, sewer police, health, social services and regional planning. The lower municipalities take care of local services such as roads, fire protection. parks, recreation and local water and sewer

Suggestions for simplification usually involve creating fewer municipalities or one regional government to do everything If you don't live in St. Catharines, Welland or Niagara Falls, you should get nervous.

We've seen how quickly centralization means services disappear in smaller communities to accommodate squeaking from the big Mayor Dave Augustyn at the last town

council meeting tried to explain the elaborate approach now underway. Regional councillors have answered a priorities survey. They will talk more.

Whether local municipal councillors will join the discussion will depend on what changes are suggested at the regional council level. If they don't affect lower municipalities like Pelham, they won't be asked Frankly, we would be further ahead it regional councillors made the existing system.

work smoother, rather than waste energy on ored beads in keeping with the vicions of a new one Mardi Gras theme. wcampbell@wellandtribune.ca

comment

Average 2.47% for Pelham's property tax increase

ith the first installment for our property taxes, I offer you more information about the town's budget.

At our Feb. 6 meeting, Pelham council approved the operating budget and an average 2,47% increase on the Pelham portion of your 2012 residential property

What does that mean for your pocket book?

Well, the average residential property value for 2012 is expected to be \$284,566. If MPAC assessed your home and property at that value, you will pay an additional \$31 or a total of approximately \$1,289 on the Pelham portion of your property



MAYORAI VIEW

Why such a small increase

when other Cities and Towns contemplate a 4%, 5%, or 9% rise? Local media recently bestowed a "thorn" on some nearby communities for the way in which they announce a huge tax increase

- like 9.75% - only to "whittle" it down later to 4% or 5%. We don't do that in Pelham; instead we give guidance to staff - maintain the base budget, work diligently and creatively to find efficiencies, review and trim all expenditures throughout the year - and they present that type of budget to Council.

What are some of the 2012 operating budget highlights?

The Town will further invest in better communications and the use of technology. Staff will continue to reduce the reliance on "snail mail" and offer billings by e-mail, use web-based tools for procurement, and increase the use of electronic funds transfers

for venders and residents. The town will also expand the success of Summerfest into a multi-day event (July 19 to 22), add camp and swimming services, refresh and improve

staff's customer service skills, and enhance some bylaw services. Staff will review and monitor

our grass cutting and snow clearing services; we hope to find the right mix between the level of service and whether town staff or contractors should best provide these amenities.

We are also faced with a few uncontrollable increases. These include increased costs for employee benefits, WSIB Excess Indemnity Insurance costs, and annualized costs of last year's new hires (planner, fixed asset accountant, and procurement coordinator).

To put the 2012 Budget into perspective, this is another low increase by a fiscally responsible town and council. And, from what I am hearing across the Niagara. Pelham will likely be the lowest or among the lowest increases again this year.

I will write more about your total property tax impact after Regional Council approves the 2012 rates and ratios later this

You may contact Mayor Dave Augustyn at mayordave@pelham. ca or read past columns at www. pelhammayordave.blogspot.com.

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Crossley alumni banners to promote 50th anniversary

For PelhamNEWS

• FRFF Estimates

THOROLD - About 150 children had a banner celebration at Club Castropignano last Saturday

Family Feast and Fest was the first event planned by the emerging E. L. Crossley Alumni Association.

The hall was decorated with helium balloons and tables were set out with shiny masks and col-

The Divas were there to repre-

sent a class from the early seventies and the ages in the hall ranged from retirees to toddlers. The DI started out by getting all the kids on the dance floor to dance a number of novelty

The adults then joined in as Janet Cripps led everyone in the

Chicken Dance More than \$600 was donated by adults in the audience who sup-

ported the creation of two large banners to promote the 50th anniversary reunion planned for the Victoria Day weekend in 2013.

These banners will be on display during the week of the reunion across Pelham Street in Fonthill and by the Town Hall in Wainfleet However, you can expect to see

them at parades, at the bandshell. at the Fenwick Fair, at Canada Day, at the Marshville Festival and Wainfleet Fair as we get the word out about the dates of the 50th reunion and new website set up for registration.

The 50th reunion planning team hopes to finalize plans by May this year and present a plan to both the Town of Pelham and Township of Wainfleet.

The group is planning future events this year and next such as a golf tournament, a music trivia night, a Lobsterfest, and a wine and cheese appreciation night.

To check out the plans go to www.elcrosslevalumni.com. The site is available by computers, tablets and smartphones. Spread the word to all Crossley

alumni around the world! Look forward to next year's Family Feast 'N Fest on the first Saturday following Family Day.

■ PUBLISHER'S COLUMN: Visit and explore The Tribune's new website

Welcome to our World Wide Web makeover

ast week marked the launch of a new website for The Tribune, marking our strong commitment to the provision of information to the residents of south

It's been a great week for us here at The Tribune and indeed for all of Sun Media Niagara, which saw the chain's other two dailies, The St. Catharines Standard and Niagara Falls Review also launch new websites.

If you haven't had a chance to go online and check us out. I strongly urge you to do so. Visit www.wellandtribune. ca and what you'll find is a vibrant presentation of the news that affects your local community, your region and beyond. But that's not where it

ends. This new site offers the traditional interactivity many of you have enjoyed, plus a number of new options that



should help make your day all the more interesting.

Join our exclusive UR community to comment, discuss, share and more. Let our visual navigation guide you through new features and interactive social media tools. We also invite you to browse our local business community through the new marketplace and our advertising partners.

Whether you access your community information at home on your computer or tablet or if you are mobile, the new sites are designed to be responsive to the size of the screen you use to access it. As I write this, it's been less than a day since the website



went live, but we've received much positive feedback through social media, on the site itself and through phone

calls and comments on the The website launch comes on top of the kickoff to our

regionwide Niagara Regional section on Tuesdays. Just two months into 2012, these two projects alone

mark what we feel is a proven commitment to reach out to our readership area in new, innovative ways Given that prior to

launching this new website. The Tribune was already welcoming more than 120,000 unique visitors per month. who read more than 890,000 web pages a month - visitors to the three Niagara dailies read more than 3.25 million pages — which means we are working hard to stay in touch with you in a progressive, interactive, meaningful way

- every day, and in every way you choose to access us. I invite you to explore our new site and click on the 'Give us your opinion' feedback link to let us know what you think. Or provide feedback through Twitter and Facebook.

Ken Koyama is publisher for digital and print at The Tribune

Over 100,000 people have trusted their vision to Lasik Provision



Dr. Andrew Taylor knows how challenging it can be for consumers deciding on laser vision correction procedures. Understandably arryone would be confused by the wide range of fees associated with laser eye surgery. Some centers are offering quotes as low as \$299 per eye with very vague guarantees. Consumers have caught on to the fact that these fees are never really as low as they seem. If you can't trust the advertised price, then how can you trust that provider to perform your surgery? These are your eyes, and the best guarantee in laser eye surgery comes directly from your roeon, equipment and the professional staff that support

Many consumers now realize the tangible economic of laser vision correction. If you are a contact lens wearer the average monthly cost for contacts and supplies is between \$75-\$100 dollars. This represents an annual cost of roughly \$1,500 dollars since most patients require a back up pair of diasses every 12-24 months. One has typically spent about \$7,500 dollars on optical wear over the past 5 years and will have similar cost over the next 5 years to look forward too. In fact patients are already financing their vision correction needs. The effect of leafk can last a lifetime making your investment more cost efficient

At Lasik Provision, laser vision correction is viewed as an art form. Dr. Andrew Taylor has hand selected an experienced team of individuals who are constantly striving to provide the finest in all aspects of your lastic experience. Dr. Andrew Taylor will personally perform your laser eye surgery. He has been serving the residents of South Western Detario and the Northern United States for over 20 years. He can draw upon a personal experience of having performed over 100,000 successful task procedures to achieve the results you desire. Lasik Provision has superior fochnology and Dr. Andrew Taylor has personally used every major laser platform that is used in North America today. He lectures internationally in the field of laser eye surgery and on laser platforms. He is involved in the regulate studies for the approval of new devices and procedures. Dr. Andrew Taylor has chosen the Zeiss

MEL 80TM Excimer laser and the Visumax Fernitosocond Laser as his preferred pictform. Carl Zeiss is internationally renowned for their expertise in optics, their lenses are likely to be the ones you use at home in your cameras. Carl Zoiss Meditec utilizes advanced engineering profiles which produce superfative, predictable refractive outcomes which is what you want as a refractive eye patient.

The Zeiss MEL 80TM Excimer laser custom treats every eye with Wavefront technology. This laser is one of the fastest in the world; it uses dual eye tracking for accuracy and centration. It also uses observation-optimized algorithms to reduce the incidence of night gians. Visual quality and stability is unsurpassed with the Carl Zeiss laser platform. The MEL BOTM laser has the newest technology providing correction for the presbyopic population. It is known as Zeiss BLENDED WISION, and is based on the principal of micro-monovision. It allows the eyes to maintain different focusing depths. Both eyes are corrected for intermediate distance at all times with one eye having a range of vision extending to distance and the other eye having a range of vision extending to near. Tris creates a functional range of clear vision across all visual fields; near, intermediate and far. The laser restraces the comes using different power zones to create useful spherical aberration; making the image disparity between the two eyes so small that the brain doesn't notice which eye it is using for far and near. This is the most exciting device in laser eve surgery today, treating 'old age eves'.

Lasik Provision is using the Carl Zeiss Meditec VisuMax Ferntosecond laser for all flap creation in laser eye surgery. Dr. Andrew Taylor is now only performing completely bladeless lasik procedures. It provides maximum safety and comfort for the patients. It creates a thinner flap, allowing patients with thinner corness an opportunity to have the potential for lastic, it uses minimal energy, allowing more precision and less tissue disruption and therefore faster healing

Your eyes are precious and Dr. Andrew Taylor looks forward to providing you with a level and care that exceeds your expectations. Life was not meant to be viewed through glasses or contact lenses; life is about freedom, With these new technological breakthroughs, there has never been a better and safer time to experience the freedom so many millions of people have enjoyed with laser

On behalf of the entire staff at Lasik Provision we look forward to working with you.

To obtain additional information or to book your FREE consultation please contact our refractive counselors at 1-888-510-2020 or 905-371-3217. You may visit our website at www.lasikorovision.com



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6800 Morrison Street, Niagara Falls, Ontario

Proposed Regional Policy Plan Amendment

(RPPA 1-2012) Niagara's Economic Gateway Zone and Centre

Purpose of the Open House

The purpose of this Public Open House is to present the proposed Regional Policy Plan Amendment RPPA 1-2012: Niagara's Economic Gateway Zone and Centre and to receive comments and answer questions from the public regarding the proposed Amendment.

What is the Purpose and Effect of the Proposed Amendment to the Region's Policy Plan?

The Region's Growth Management Strategy, Niagara 2031 includes policies which implement the Provincial Growth Plan's Economic Gateway Zone and Centre designations. RPPA I-2012, Niagara's Economic Gateway Zone and Centre Amendment provides strategic direction for the development of employment lands within the Gateway and outlines a land use strategy to support economic development and job creation in these areas. Niagara Region has prepared draft policies and mapping for RPPA 1-2012 which can be viewed at www.niagararegion.ca. Niagara Region would like to obtain your views on this important policy initiative.

Have Your Say

Public input on this proposed amendment is welcomed and encouraged. Three Open Houses in the municipalities of Port Colborne, Welland and Fort Erie are being held to obtain your view. You can provide your input by attending one of the open houses where comment sheets will be made available. Representatives from the Region, their consultants and the respective local municipality will be present at each Open House to answer questions and discuss the next steps in the Gateway Amendment.

The three Public Open Houses will be held at the following locations:

Thursday, March 22, 2012 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Council Chambers Port Colborne City Hall 66 Charlotte Street Port Colborne, ON

Wednesday March 28, 2012 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Community Room Welland City Hall 60 East Main Street Welland, ON

Thursday March 29, 2012 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Front Atrium Fort Frie Town Hall I Municipal Centre Drive Fort Frie. ON

If you have any questions or concerns please contact:

Brian Dick, MCIP, RPP, Policy Planner, Integrated Community Planning Department at (905) 685-1571 ext.3365 or brian.dick@niagararegion.ca

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend and participate in the three Open Houses, please contact the Accessibility Advisory Coordinator at 905-685-4225 ext. 3252, as soon as possible, or accessibility@niagararegion.ca to make the appropriate arrangements.



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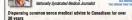
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"I recommend it to . Arthritis my patients who Tendonitis suffer from arthritis" . Muscle strain W. GIFFORD-JONES, MD . Back pain





"Where can I get another tube of MYO-MED?" a tennis friend asked me. I'd given him a sample of this cream when his arthritic knee kept him from playing tennis for several months. Now he was back in the game So how does this new all-natural, toxin-free analgesic help painful joints? And why is it safer than other over-the-counter painkiller cream? Today. 21million North Americans suffer daily the agony of arthritis. Others see their quality of life diminished by sports injuries, backache, sore muscles and the ravages of aging joints.

Customary treatment has been the use of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. Unfortunately, too many people take these over-the-counter medications thinking they're as safe as M and M candy. But every year 25,000 North Americans die from gastro-intestinal complications due to this self-prescribed remedy. It's a huge price to pay for pain relief. MYO-MED eliminates this problem. To my knowledge, no side effects have been reported by using this natural cream.

But how is MYO-MED different from other over-the-counter painkillers? Remember that, due to increasing drug complications, it's important to know what a medication does not contain. Today there are 300 different topical analoesics available in North America. But 90 percent of these painkillers contain methyl salicy-late. Excessive use of this substance over a period of time has been associated with serious health problems and in rare cases can be fatal.

MYO-MED does not contain methyl salicylate and is the only all natural and toxin-free cream available. MYO-MED consists of a combination of six anti-inflammatory ingredients

proven to be effective in relieving a variety of painful conditions such as arthritis, bursitis, tendonitis and carpal tunnel syndrome. One of the main ingredients is cetylated fatty acids. These are naturally occurring compounds that help to reduce inflammation, pain and increase mobility. Another incredient. There is Alba is a vincilles alant native to the woods. of Europe. It's particularly effective for the pain associated with motion.

It's also helpful in the treatment of neck, back pain and those suffering from fibromyalgia. MYO-MED also has what's called a "Nano Delivery System': It's a process that quickly carries these six anti-inflammatory ingredients deep into affected muscles and joints where they're needed. providing relief in minutes.

But how good is MYO-MED in easing pain? Researchers at the University of Connecticut carried out double-blind studies to test its effectiveness One group of patients, suffering from osteo-arthritis of the knee, was treated with MYO-MED. A similar group received a placebo cream. But neither doctors nor patients were told which cream was the real McCov. Thirty minutes after applying the cream, patients were tested to see how their disability was affected. How far could they flex a knee before it became painful? How well could they get up from a chair? How much time did it take to go up and down 11 steps? And how good was their

Patients were then advised to apply their creams twice a day for 30 days. Both groups of patients were also provided with nutritional guidance to ensure neither group gained weight during the trial period.

Researchers found that patients using MYO-MED noticed better function after 30 minutes. Further improvement occurred over the ensuing 30 days. Patients could flex knees better, needed less time to navigate stairs and rise from a chair. They also showed improved balance, strength and physical endurance

MYO-MED combats another vital problem. It's logical that if a knee joint hurts, there's a natural tendency not to move it. But ships develop barnacles if tied up to dock too long. And people suffering from painful joints slowly but surely lose muscle mass if they become less active. This can have a major effect on their way of life. Several professional athletes who have access to the best treatments available say that MYO-MED keeps them on the playing field. It has also kept me at the trap shooting range as the gun's recoil often leaves me with a painful shoulder. And my tennis friend couldn't be however. I'll successe him with another tube at Christmas.

learn more at: www.docgiff.com & www.myonnatural.com Myo-Med supports the Gifford-Jones Professorship in Pain Control and Palliative Care

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AFRICAN MANGO

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Two Amazing Natural Ingedients



RASPBERRY KETONE

Raspberry Ketone is an organic compound that produces the smell of raspberries. Recently, however, it has been found that raspberry ketones can help with weight management. Raspberry ketone can help the efficiency of the metabolism by increasing the body's core temperature and in so doing increasing the body's fat burning abilities.



AFRICAN MANGO

Studies have shown that taking African Mango supplements can help to reduce appetite, burn fat, increase energy, and help regulate the efficiency of the hormone leptin. All of these properties can have a significant impact on weight loss and weight management efforts.







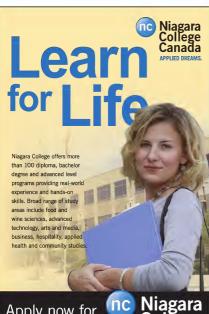








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APPLIED DREAMS.





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■ MUNICIPAL FINANCE: 2.47% town tax increase for 2012

Lean Pelham budget process started in the fall

WAYNE CAMPBELL PelhamNEWS Staff

On Leap Day, town taxpayers saw an average \$31 jump in the Pelham portion of their property taxes.

The first of four tax due dates falls on the last day of the month. Others are in April, June and September.

Earlier this month, councillors approved a 2.47% increase in the town's share of property taxes when they approved the municipality's \$11.3-million operating budget.

For the typical Pelham property assessed at \$284,566 that will amount to a \$31 increase.

The portion of property taxes going to the town is about 30%, Niagara Region takes about \$50% and school taxes 20%.

Niagara Region brought in a budget with a 3.2% tax increase. Mayor Dave Augustyn said he was pleased with the approach town coun-

cil took in preparing the 2012 budget. Council set a goal of capping any increase at 3% Ward 3 Coun, John Durley, chair of the finance committee, praised the

town's staff for their preliminary work before the budget was presented to town council "We have to give a lot of credit to our staff for doing the best they could

officiencies*

to hold the line. They found a lot of wcampbell@wellandtribune.ca

The town, Durley said, faced inflation-related costs for energy, fuel and insurance. It had a collective agreement with employees for a cost of living increase. It will also feel the effect of a legal settlement between Ontario golf courses and the Municipal Property Assessment Corp. which lowers the assessment value of Pelham's six golf

Augustyn called the increase of under

2.5% "very reasonable." "To put the 2012 budget into perspective, this is another low increase by a fiscally responsible town and council. And, from what I am hearing across the Niagara, Pelham will likely be the lowest or among the lowest increases

again this year," he said. The town's \$11.3-million operating budget directly affects the tax bill. The operating budget includes salaries, heating, lighting, insurance, fuel, sup-

plies and other similar costs. At the end of November, town council approved a \$6,1-million capital budget for roads, equipment, parks and buildings, financed mainly from reserve

Town council on Tuesday passed a water and sewer budget with a 3.5% increase over 2011. It includes a fixedrate charge of \$22.07 every two months for water and \$26,08 for wastewater.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION DAY



The Community Wellness Centre held a Community Information Day to promote sports, recreation programs and activities being offered throughout the city on Saturday, Tina Herriot, left, and Pia Sandstrom Arnds, third from left, visit Brian Roy and Sally Rennick at the South Niagara Canoe Club booth and inquire about its programs for adults and children for 2012.



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo Wainfleet Mayor April Jeffs, Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey, Pelham Mayor Dave Augustyn and Acting Mayor of Welland, Paul Grenier had a friendly competition at Bowl for Kids Sake Saturday to raise money for Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Niagara.

■ ART: Mother's Day weekend tradition

Annual festival coming together

Pelham NEWS Staff

Spring's coming early this year and if you find your home in need of a splasb of colour to match the season the Pelham Art Festival might be just the ticket.
"I just love art," Jane Young, the

advertising coordinator for festival "I love to go and see what everybody's doing just because I love

art, and to take my mother or my The Pelham Art Festival on Mother's Day weekend - May 11 to 13 at the Pelham Arena features more than 65 Canadian artists who

for everybody's budget. "I've been very impressed by the quality it is juried work," she said.

The works in the arena have been inspected by the organizers of the festival and recognized artists to ensure the quality of work. All of the funds raised from the

festival go toward the Pelham Library and Fonthill Library to help the library and help fund arts programs. Also to thank and encourage their continued support for the

arts in Pelham and the greater community. "This year we wanted to stress

craft a variety of pieces in a wide involvement of the library." Young said. "But as always it's a great place price range, so there is something to take your mother on her special

> The festival opens every year with a social evening with dinner, a wine tasting, and first dibs on the new up and coming artists who have not been announced.

There are also door prizes, valued at more than \$400 donated by artists like, Joe Speck, who donated a blown glass plate.

Artists and buyers come from all over Ontario to participate in the annual show.

vgray@wellandtribune.ca Twitter: @VixeyG

Bowling for kids

PelhamNFWS Staff

WELLAND - The pins were dropping to help give a child a lifelong dream

More than 300 people came out to the Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Bowl for Kid's Sake fundraiser Saturday at the Bowl-o-Rama on Niagara St. on Saturday The organization raised more than

\$21,000, not including online donations, but did not reach their \$35,000 goal for its at risk youth mentoring programs. Barb Van Der Hevden, executive

director of BBBS South Niagara said the event was amazing and raised more money this year than last despite difficult economic times. She was so thankful for the sun-

port of the community because without it BBBS would not be able to support a bright future. "The children are our future and if they are not properly nurtured and given opportunities what will our future look like? Sometimes they just need to be given the opportunity to dream that dream," she said. "Just having a mentor who can say, 'Let's reach as high as we can, can make all the difference."

More than 58 teams bowled on Saturday including local mayors, April Jeffs from Wainfleet, acting mayor Paul Grenier from Welland, Dave Augustyn from Pelham and Vance Badawey from Port Colborne for a friendly competition.

"I think it's great to have the mayors here, it shows a certain solidarity in the region for the organization," David Veres, honorary chair of the event said. "You get so much from being a big, and it's nice to know there is so much support from the municipalities."

"The issues that Big Brothers Big Sisters belp with touch all communities and all people," Augustyn said.

"It's important to get together and express to the community how important it is to help children succeed, that's our future," Badawey "We can't forget he volunteers,

without them this wouldn't be possible and they put their heart and soul into this," Grenier said. "They make a difference in so

many ways, I know the relationship they build can help them much Jeffs added

Without the support of BBBS, children like Liam Dwyer, 13, wouldn't have met Fred Farnsworth who celebrated his 85 birthday at the event. "There's a whole bunch of amazing reasons I like spending time with him," said Dwyer, "I love him, he's an amazing person." Farnsworth and Dwyer have been

matched for four years and he helps Dwyer with his homework, especially reading. "If I have a bad day at school seeing him afterward just brightens my day," he said. Farnsworth, who has been a

big for seven years, said he does it because it keeps him young. Mary White, who has been

12-year-old August Parrotta's, big sister for two years said she loves children and wanted to help a little girl, "It brings happiness to August and we have a great time, It's nice for them to have someone to give them special attention," she said.

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sports

■ SWIMMING: Compete in three meets

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100m breast.

DORADO STARS

free, 7th-100m breast

Nathan Ciccarelli (15)

1st-100m back, 1st-50m free.

1st-100m free, 1st-100m breast

Bailee Huebert (12): 3rd in

Jasmine Leheta (13): 6th in

Briana Brittain (8): 6th-50m

free, 8th-100m back, 8th-100m

50metre back stroke, 15th in

ST. CATHARINES - The Garden City Aquatic Club recently competed in the 25th annual Oakville Invitation. the Dorado Starts meet in Caledon, the Western Ontario Swimming Association regional championships in London and the 2012 Speedo Eastern Canadian Championships in

Gatineau, Que, The Eastern Canadian championships hosted 800 of the top swimmers in eastern Canada, with a few from western Canada attending, It featured former Olympians and 2012 London Olympics hopefuls, including breastroker Mike Brown and backstroker Erica Morninestar.

The Niagara swimmers. including those from Pelham. brought back medals. The results are:

Victoria McNabb (11): 9th-100m fly WOSA REGIONAL SC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bailee Huebert (12): 50m free (BT), 100m fly (BT), 100m Daniel Mateus (13):

4th-100m breast (BT),

back (BT)

Diego Ruiz Rivas (12), who was newly aged up: 7th-100m breast (BT), 7th-50m free, 200m IM (BT) 100m fly, and 10th in 200m back

Emmett Mills (8): 200m Free (BT), 5th-100m Flv (BT), 100m

IM (BT) Mara DiPersio (11), who was newly aged up: 800m free (BT), 200m free (BT), 200 IM (BT), 100m free (BT), 100m back (BT), 400m free (BT) THE 2012 SPEEDO

EASTERN CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS Nathan Ciccarelli (15) of Fonthill had second and third best times. Here are his top results: 50m Free 24,47 - 16&U/14th

overall, 15s/8th overall 50m Fly 27.80, Age Group Championships qualifier. 16&U/30th overall, 15s/7th **III HOCKEY:** Scarborough tournament

Niagara swimmers slash to medals **Tigers February Freeze champs**

For PelhamNEWS

The McDonalds Atom Tigers claimed top spot at the West Hill February Freeze Tournament in Scarborough, Feb., 17-19,

The path to the championship included three first-round victories over Meadowvale 43. the Almonte Pakenham Thunder & the West Hill Royale.

The round robin portion of the tournament saw two hat trick games for Nicholas Longo, two shut-outs for Tyler Scott and points for Longo (6G,1A), Harmon Narbonne (4G,2A), Drew Colangelo (2G,3A), Elijah Taylor (2G,2A), Jack Obdeyn (2G.1A), Colton Morrison (2G,1A), Dan Durkin

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Pelham's McDonalds Atom Tigers claimed top spot at the West Hill February Freeze Tournament in Scarborough, Feb. 17-19. The path to the championship included three first round victories over Meadowvale 43, the Almonte Pakenham

Thunder and the West Hill Royale. (2G), Owen Darling (2A), Wyatt Glancy (1G), Carter Nicholas (1G), and Elliot Carter Nicholas Song, Mitchell Karnay and

Scott (1A each). Defence was the key in the Tigers' semi-final bout with the fast and feisty West Hill Shamrock Burgers. The Tigers took an early lead with Longo finding the back of the net twice (unassisted and from Obdevn), and single goals by Durkin and Glancy (from Narbonne). West Hill mounted a challenge in the third period and nearly tied the game,

but fell short. The Championship game was a rematch with the Almonte Pakenham Thunder.

Jack Obdeyn put the first point on the scoreboard from Longo and Scott. The Tigers never surrendered the lead thanks to the steady contribution of blue-

liners Song, Karnay, Darling and Colangelo, and goalie The Tigers' seven goals

were scored by six different forwards: Obdevn. Glancy (Narbonne), Scott (Narbonne and Obdeyn), Scott (Obdeyn and Karnay), Longo (Taylor and Morrison), Durkin (Narbonne and Glancy) and Narbonne (Glancy and Durkin). The Tigers took the championship game 7-1.

Throughout the tournament, the Tigers showed their teamwork and depth with every player on their forward lines scoring at least once, and five different players including three defensive players taking game MVP honours -Longo, Colangelo, Scott, Song and Nicholas.

It was a fun and exciting weekend for the players, coaches and families.



■ ART: Cultural Capital of Canada project deadline March 16

Niagara region needs textile and mixed media artists

For PelhamNEWS

A search is on for Niagara-based textile and mixed media artists. They are needed to participate in a

collaborative art project as part of Niagara's 2012 Cultural Capital of Canada celebrations.

The project requires a variety of textile and mixed media artists

These include hand and machine quilters, traditional and contemporary quilt artists, hand and machine embroiderers, felters and beaders, and artists

who work with metal, paper, plastic, and other materials. Selected artists will receive \$1,200 for their work.

The artwork will be based on juryselected photographs made by local photographers. More than 150 local photographers submitted images for the

The final artwork will be unveiled at

Capital of Canada celebrations in December 2012.

It will be displayed at Niagara Region headquarters.

To be considered, artists must provide samples of current work that illustrate quality of craftsmanship and artistic

The deadline for submissions is March 16. Project details are available on the Region's website www.niagararegion.ca

As a Cultural Capital of Canada for 2012, Niagara will be the site of a year-long celebration with the theme *Crossing Boundaries: Niagara's Creative Spirit".

The activities involve a wide range of groups, forms of cultural expression and events in every part of Niagara. All will be open to the public, and

most will be free or have a nominal



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"NOMINATION DEADLINE FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2012 5:00 P.M."



Mail or drop off completed nomination form to:

THE TRIBUNE 228 East Main St. P.O. Box 278 Welland, ON L3B 5P5

Please note: Complete nomination form, letters of support and any other materials submitted will not be returned

Judging Criteria

AGAINST THE ODDS

Naminees must be a resident of Pelham, Part Calborne, Wainfleet ar Welland. Their accomplishments must have accured within the past year. There is a 1,000 ward limit for all naminations. Na additional material will be accepted. Judges will rate each naminee from 1-10 in the following:

- . What has the naminee accamplished during the past year?
- Haw has this accomplishment impacted an themselves and/ar athers? Why did the naminee set aut to da this?
- 24 Semi finalists will be handured at the Great Kids Awards Gala an Sunday April 29th at Club Castrapignana

COOL TO BE KIND Naminees will have performed a service ar act of kindness, support ar encouragement to a friend, family, neighbour ar stranger with na personal gain for themselves. This could be an angaing ar one-time service to an individual, group ar community.

PERSONAL BEST Naminees will have achieved a level of performance beyond what might have been expected. This could mean achieving a top performance overall ar performance to the best of their ability. Achievements can be in any area including business, academics, athletics, music, art, writing, drama, etc.

AGAINST THE ODDS Nominees will have shown great strength, ambition and dedication in overcoming a mental, physical, personal, economic or environmental challenge to achieve a goal.

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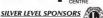




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The decidline for submission is 5 p.m., Friday, March 23, 2012.

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December, 2011, must be in our hands by March 30, 2012, after which dalle the assets of the Estate will be distributed.

Dated at Port Colborne, Ontario this 24th day of February, 2012.

Christopher E. H. Wilson, Estate Trustee o/o WILSON, OPATOVSKY 190 Elm Street, P. O. Box 99 Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 5V7

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Birthday greetings



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MONDAY, MARCH 12 - FRIDAY, MARCH 16

MARCH BREAK MONSTER ART CAMP

At in The Orchard, 9am-4pm, For ages four and up, Youth training also available. Painting, sculpture, textile and design, More info at 905-892-1709 or www.intheorchard.org

MONDAY, MARCH 12 ABRIKIDABRA

AROUND TOWN

Join Peter Mennie for his magical performance of AbriKIDabra a great show with a perfect combination of magic and comedy for all ages. All children must be supervised by an adult who also needs a ticket, 1 p.m. Pelham Arena Community Hall, \$4 MUNSCH-A-MANIA

Love Robert Munsch stories? Come and celebrate as we read some of the funniest stories ever. Maple Acre Branch, Pelham

Library, 10 a.m. \$3.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

THE LIN-RIPTHDAY PARTY Come celebrate your un-birthday at the library. Cupcake decorating and party games galore. Wear your wackiest hat for a chance at a prize. Allergy Alert- Program will contain food. (5+ yrs) Fonthill Branch 11 a m \$4

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Join our very own Jessica Stewart as she creates magnificent

morsels for you to try or take. Helpful hints for the voungest of bakers. Recipes provided. Allergy Alert - food will be provided in





this program. (6+ yrs, under 6 must have an adult present) Fonthill Branch, 1 p.m. \$4

LIBRARY EVENTS

MEDITATION MORNING

Marcia leads beginners and those who have meditated before through a number of different types of meditations for stress relief and focus. Please bring a pen and notebook. March 3 from 9:30 -11:30. \$3.00. Please register ahead.

OSTEOPOROSIS AND YOU

Learn how to maintain healthy bones for a lifetime. Steps in the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis will be covered. Tuesday March 5 at 6:30. Free. Please register ahead

SPRING CARD-MAKING WORKSHOP

At this workshop you will make four unique cards using a variety of techniques such as: origami, stamping, plus tea bag and iris folding. Make a unique bookmark. Tuesday March 6 (1-3 p.m.). Cost is \$10.00. Register ahead as space is limited.

UNDERSTANDING ARTHRITIS

The Arthritis Society will give a general overview of arthritis with an emphasis on osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis will be provided as well as tips on managing the condition and what services are available in the Niagara Region. Wednesday, March 7 at 6:30. Free but please register ahead.

TOM THOMSON IN ALGONOUIN 100 years ago this spring, Thomson made his first trip to Algonquin

Park. This presentation by local photographer Peter Ferguson follows his years in the park, from the beginning to his tragic death in 1917. Join us to explore new evidence surrounding Thomson's death. Tues., March 6, 7:30 p.m. \$4.00. Please register ahead.

HEARING CLINIC

Connect Hearing will be at the Fonthill Branch giving free hearing screenings and will answer any questions about various hearing issues. March 12 or April 2 from 10 - 1. Free. Schedule your appointment ahead at: 905-892-6068.

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